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YORK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

28 EAST MARKET STREET, YORK, PENNSYLVANIA 17401-1580
 TELEPHONE: (717) 771-9870 FAX: (717) 771-9511

August 4, 2011
 Cynthia T. Brown
 Chief of the Section of Administration
 Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board
 395 East Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
 Office of Proceedings

AUG 10 2011

Part of
 Public Record

RR: STB Docket No. AB-1071 (Stewartstown Railroad Company, York County, PA)

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing in opposition to the application for Adverse Abandonment of the Stewartstown Railroad Company filed by the Estate of George M. Hart on July 7, 2011. The Stewartstown Railroad Company owns the 7.4 mile rail line between Stewartstown Borough and New Freedom Borough in York County, PA. The factors behind the request for adverse abandonment are not based on the Stewartstown Railroad Company's desire to abandon the rail line. Instead it is due to a debt owed to settle a personal estate.

Although the rail line is not currently in use, there is no transportation policy that promotes the removal of rail lines. To the contrary, all goals identified in the PennDOT Rail plan identify the expansion of rail connections and preservation of right-of-way. It would be shortsighted and counter to the PennDOT Rail Plan to abandon the rail corridor and lose the right-of-way protection afforded to it by the Surface Transportation Board. It is interesting to note that when discussing opportunities to solve transportation problems in York County, it is not uncommon to hear the statement, "If only that was still a rail line...." when reviewing several abandoned rail line corridors. Although the possibility of freight service being implemented at the present time has obstacles to overcome there are several different groups looking to resolve them and operate on either the Stewartstown Railroad or the former Northern Central Rail Line, which connects Stewartstown Railroad to Genesee and Wyoming, Inc.

I recommend that you do not approve the request for adverse abandonment and instead, leave the railroad intact and under the protection of the Surface Transportation Board at this time.

Sincerely,

Felicia S. Dell AICP
 Director
 York County Planning Commission

TERRY L. DUNLAP, CHAIRMAN • WALTER A. KUHLE, VICE CHAIRMAN • MARY E. COBLE, SECRETARY • BRIAN BRENNEMAN, TREASURER
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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**YORK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

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TELEPHONE: (717) 771-9870 FAX: (717) 771-9511

August 10, 2011

Dear Ms. Ruby Rocher or Ms. Barbara Stradler,

Surface Transportation Board

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1071 (Stewartstown Railroad Company, York County, PA)

Dear Ms. Rocher and Ms Stradler,

As instructed by our telephone conversation on Monday August 7th, the York County Planning Commisison sent theire objection letter to all interested parties of the docket mentioned above. The parties that were sent a letter are listed below.

Anderson, D. Reed
Susquehanna Commerce Center East
221 W. Philadelphia Street, Suite 600
York, PA 17401-2994

Snyder, Alex
Barley Snyder Llc
P. O. 15012
York, PA 17405-8492

Crawford, Melinda
Preservation Pennsylvania
257 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Tuholske, Jack R
PO BOX 7548
Missoula, MT 59807

Knoch, Carl R.
York County Rail Trail Authority
P. O. Box 335
Seven Valleys, PA 17360

Watson, David M.
PO Box 632
Red Lion, PA 17356-0632

O'brien, Keith G.
Baker & Miller Pllc
2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, Nw
Washington, DC 20037

Saylor, Honorable Stanley E.
Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania Harrisburg
PO Box 202094
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2094

Sincerely,

Will Clark,
Chief of Transportation Planning